

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENNA 06283 061527Z  
ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SCA-01 DHA-02 INSE-00  
JUSE-00 L-03 INR-07 /039 W  
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R 061446Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
TO SECSTATE WASDC 2416  
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 6283

BONN FOR PFUND

E.O. 11652: GDS SKRBIN  
TAGS: CGEN (JANKO)  
SUBJECT: JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE: WAR CRIMES INFORMATION

REF: STATE 151948

1. WE CHECKED WITH APPROPRIATE SOURCES FOR INFORMATION REQUESTED PARA SIX, REFTEL, MINISTRIES OF JUSTICE AND INTERIOR, REGARDING JANKO SKRBIN. JUSTICE MINISTRY TOLD US THEY HAVE NO RECORD OF SKRBIN. ACCORDING INTERIOR MINISTRY, THERE NO INDICATION SKRBIN WAS EVER IN AUSTRIA, BUT INTERIOR HAS COMPILED INFORMATION FOR ITS SECURITY FILES FROM NEWSPAPER AND OTHER SOURCES WHICH FOLLOWS:

2. SKRBIN COMPLETED HIGH SCHOOL AND LAW SCHOOL IN ZAGREB, YUGOSLAVIA, AND WAS EITHER STUDENT OR PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AT WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY, CLEVELAND, OHIO. SINCE 1935 SKRBIN HAS BEEN MEMBER OF CROATION YOUTH MOVEMENT. HE WAS PRESIDENT OF HIGH SCHOOL CHAPTER OF MATICA HRVATSKA, OLD CROATIOAN CULTUREAL MOVEMENT, AND VICE PRESIDENT OF  
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UNIVERSITY CHAPTER THAT ORGANIZATION. IN 1945 SKRBIN WAS CAPTURED, PROBABLY BY TITO PARTISANS. HE ESCAPTED AND SUBSEQUENTLY BECAME INMATE OF REFUGEE CAMP IN ITALY. HE WAS EDITOR OF FIRST PERIODICAL PUBLISHED FOR CROATIAN EMIGRANTS "CROATIA". SUBJECT WENT TO US IN 1951. HE WAS MEMBER OF "UNITED CROATIAN FRONT" IN WLAND, OHIO, AND BECAME PRESIDENT OF THAT

ORGANIZATION IN SEPTEMBER 1975. HE PARTICIPATED AS MEMBER OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AT CONGRESS OF CROATIAN NATIONAL COUNCIL HELD AT TORONTO, CANADA FROM APRIL 11 TO 13, 1975. SKRBIN HAS BEEN WORKING AS COMMENTATOR FOR CROATIAN RADIO PROGRAM IN CLEVELAND, OHIO. HE IS PRESIDENT OF CROATIAN ACADEMIC CLUB, BELIEVED BASED IN CLEVELAND. FOR 12 YEARS HE HAS BEEN CHEIF EDITOR OF RADIO PROGRAM CALLED "VOICE OF CROATIA", PROBABLY ALSO IN CLEVELAND. ON SEPTEMBER 17, 1976 SKRBIN CREATED FUND RAISING ORGANIZATION IN NEW YORK CALLED "THE FREE CROATIA."

3. NO FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE. TRINKA

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**TAGS:** CGEN, (JANKO)  
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**Review Markings:**  
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